EFFECT OF PRIVATE AIRLINES ON DOMESTIC AIRLINES

3090. SHRIMATI ILA PANDA :
DR. BAPU KALDATE :
SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the domestic airlines have been gradually losing to the private airlines both in passenger and cargo traffic and the losses are growing substantially ;

(b) whether it is also a fact that one of the reasons for mopping up the passengers and the cargo traffic is that the private carriers provide vast range of services and amenities as compared to the domestic airlines ;

(c) if so, what is the estimated loss likely to be suffered by the domestic carriers at the end of 1993 stating the percentage by which the loss has risen as compared to the loss in 1992 ;

(d) what are the other factors for potentially losing the passenger and cargo traffic to the private airlines ; and

(e) what measures have been taken proposed to be taken by Government in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b) Air Taxi Operators have been carrying progressively larger number of passengers from year to year causing reduction in the business carried by Indian Airlines. However, carriage of Cargo by air taxies is not significant.

(c) During 1992, Indian Airlines carried 95% of the domestic traffic and the Air Taxi operators 5%. During 1993 (upto November, 1993), Indian Airlines carried 77% of the domestic traffic and the Air Taxi operators 23%.

(d) Because of a large number of air taxi operators on certain routes, domestic passengers have a choice which they did not have earlier.

(e) To reduce losses the following steps have been taken by Indian Airlines :

(i) Improvement in customer services; both on ground and on board the aircraft ;

(ii) Introduction of scheme like 'Fly More and Fly Free' Point-to-Point Fares, Domestic Tour Packages etc.

(iii) Close monitoring of 'On-Time Performance'.

(iv) Changes in marketing strategy including productivity linked incentive for agents.

(v) Providing convenient schedules ; and

(vi) Stepping up utilisation of existing fleet.

PILFERAGE IN HOTEL ASHOKA, DELHI

3091. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that according to an audit report there is a great deal of pilferage in Hotel Ashoka, Delhi ;

(b) if so, the loss suffered as a result thereof ; and

(c) the steps taken to stop this ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b) The auditors in their audit report on the accounts of Ashoka Hotel, New Delhi for the year 1992-93 had expressed the possibility of leakage of revenue/pilferage. However, ITDC had noticed a few cases of minor pilferage amounting to Rs. 868 during the year 1992-93.

(c) The steps taken by ITDC to curb pilferage include installation of computerised cash registers (billing-machines) in the Hotel, exercising of strict supervision and control, disciplinary action against erring employees.